

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 ON

#11/SG 9-17-05

Anta Halo 09/02/2003 SIGNATURE DATE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: Alan E. Shluzas

Serial No.

10/075,668

Filing Date

: February 13, 2002

For

AN APPARATUS FOR CONNECTING

A LONGITUDINAL MEMBER TO A

BONE PORTION

Art Unit

: 3732

Examiner

: Anuradha Ramana

Attorney Docket

A31-6014

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

1. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, and in compliance with CFR §1.56, the Office's attention is directed to the patents, pending applications, publications and other information listed on the attached PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document is enclosed. Applicant(s) make no admission that the enclosed documents are prior art to the present invention.

Regarding each listed document that is not in the English language, an English-language translation accompanies this Statement as indicated on the attached PTO-1449 or a corresponding U.S. Patent is enclosed, or an English abstract, or a concise explanation of the relevance of the document is set forth on an attached sheet.
 Pursuant to 37 CFR \$1.97(b) this Statement is being filed

•		uant must			\$1.97(b) this Statement is being filed):					
	(a)				ree months of the filing date or ntry into the National Stage.					
	(b)				e mailing date of a first Office the merits.					
	(c)	\boxtimes	After the period set forth in 37 CFR \$1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.							
			1)	\boxtimes	A certification is given below,					
			2)		Enclosed is a check covering the fee (\$180.00) set forth in \$1.17(p) for consideration of this Statement, or					
			3)		Charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR \$1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.					
	(d)		After the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. The required certification and fee is indicated below.							
			1)		Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) \$180, or					
			2)		Charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR \$1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.					

- 4. Certification (if applicable):
 - (a) The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.
 - (b) The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the undersigned's knowledge after making reasonable inquiry no item of information contained in the Statement, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR \$1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.
- 5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, fees underpaid, or credit any overpayment with regard to this Statement to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.
- 6. Concise Explanation (if needed):
 - (1) Below is a Concise Statement of Relevance of enclosed non-English language document(s).

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

U.S. Patent No. 6,440,137

Respectfully submitted,

James L. Tarolli

Reg. No. 36,029

TAROLLI, SUNDHEIM, COVELL, & TUMMINO L.L.P.

526 Superior Avenue, Suite 1111

Cleveland, OH 44114-1400 Phone: (216) 621-2234

Fax: (216) 621-4072 Customer No.: 26,294

FORM PT (REV. 6-8		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE							ATTY DOCK	ET N	IO.: A31-601	SERIAL NO. 10/075,668					
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT										APPLICANT(S): Alan E. Shluzas							
(Use several sheets if necessary)										FILING DAT	E: F	ebruary 13, 2	GROUP: 3732				
SEP 0 4 2003 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS																	
EXAMINER INITIAL			DOCUMENTA NUMBER							DATE NA		NAME	CLASS	SUB FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE			
				4 4 0 1 3 7 Au			ıg. 27, 2002 Horvath et al.										
							<u> </u>								· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
				$oxed{oldsymbol{oldsymbol{oldsymbol{eta}}}}$			<u> </u>				ļ						
			ļ	<u> </u>			<u> </u>				<u> </u>						
			_	<u> </u>			<u> </u>										
					<u> </u>		<u> </u>						·				
			ļ	<u> </u>		ļ	<u> </u>							·			
		_	-	1	_		<u> </u>			 							
							 								=		
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		<u></u>				l						
								FOR	EIG	ON PATENT D	ocu	JMENTS					
DOCUMENT NUMBER										DATE COUNT		COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION		
															YES	NO	
			+	+	+	\dashv	\dashv								_		
				-		+											
				+		\dashv				-	-						
						\dashv											
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)													<u>. </u>				
			1									-		•	-		
		<u> </u>							· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				 				
			+						,								
			-														
EXAMINER										DATE CONSIDERED							
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the patent applicants' attorney.																	